OSAC RESEARCH NEEDS ASSESSMENT FORM

Title of research need: | Verification of Training |

Keyword(s): | |

Submitting subcommittee(s): | Forensic Document Examination | **Date Approved:** | 3/25/2016 |

(If SAC review identifies additional subcommittees, add them to the box above.)

Background Information:

1. Description of research need:

Some empirical support for the basis of a two year mentorship style training program. This could be broken into two parts; 1) Support for the syllabus and materials used in training, and 2) Support for the minimum two year length of training by testing examiners for competence, accuracy, and reliability.

2. Key bibliographic references relating to this research need:

3a. In what ways would the research results improve current laboratory capabilities?

The current training standard (E2388-11) is pretty much universally accepted by legitimate document examiners. However, with research, a trainer in a laboratory could be completely confident with the training program if he/she knew the program was tested to be effective and reliable at creating trained expert examiners.

3b. In what ways would the research results improve understanding of the scientific basis for the subcommittee(s)?

Other disciplines also follow a two year mentorship style of training. Research of this kind would affect multiple disciplines. When different disciplines follow the same programs it strengthens the science as a whole.

3c. In what ways would the research results improve services to the criminal justice system?

Individuals who did not meet the minimum training requirements could be excluded from testifying. This would save time in the courtroom. It would also strengthen the justice system by keeping out the untrained.

4. Status assessment (I, II, III, or IV): [III]

	Major gap in current knowledge	Minor gap in current knowledge
No or limited current research is being conducted	I	III
Existing current research is being conducted	II	IV

This research need has been identified by one or more subcommittees of OSAC and is being provided as an informational resource to the community.

Approvals:

Subcommittee   Approval date: [   ]

(Approval is by majority vote of subcommittee. Once approved, forward to SAC.)

SAC

1. Does the SAC agree with the research need?   Yes [ ]   No [ ]

2. Does the SAC agree with the status assessment?   Yes [ ]   No [ ]

   If no, what is the status assessment of the SAC: [   ]

Approval date: [   ]

(Approval is by majority vote of SAC. Once approved, forward to NIST for posting.)